MORI DocID: 409884

1824

Contents

[redacted]

Notes

China: Tightening the Screws 7

[redacted]

In Brief 11

Special Analyses [redacted]

APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: AUG 2000

[redacted]

MORI DocID: 409884

1834

CHINA: Tightening the Screws

Press reports say at least 1,000 student leaders and intellectuals are being detained throughout China. The government today ordered the police to seal the borders against a possible "escape attempt" by dissident Fang Lizhi, the press reports, although the situation near the US Embassy remains relatively quiet. [redacted]

Comment: Fragmentary evidence suggests the crackdown is nationwide and massive—running into the thousands. Troops in Beijing appear to be settling in, but fears of sniper attacks may make soldiers trigger-happy. [redacted]

[redacted]

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